

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Putt et al.

Serial No.: 09/662,929

Filed: September 15, 2000

Confirmation No.: 3538

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
PRODUCING AN INORGANIC
FOAM STRUCTURE FOR USE AS
A DURABLE ACOUSTICAL
PANEL



Examiner: Poe, Michael I.

Art Unit: 1732

Docket No.: A148 1241

COPY OF PAPERS
ORIGINALLY FILED

RECEIVED
JUG - 9 2002
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Non-Fee Amendment
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

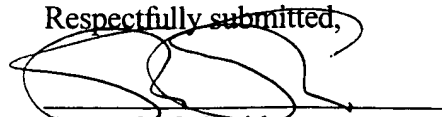
In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed June 24, 2002, Applicants provide the following:

It has been determined that the claims in the present application are drawn to two distinct inventions and restriction to one of the inventions has been required. Specifically, claims 1-34 (Group I) are drawn to a process for creating an acoustically absorbent porous panel. Claims 35-57 (Group II) are drawn to an apparatus for creating an acoustically absorbent porous panel.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group I corresponding to claims 1-34. The election is made without traverse; however, Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the non-elected claims in a subsequently filed divisional application.

The claims remaining in prosecution, claims 1-34, are believed to define a process for creating an acoustically absorbent porous panel. Accordingly, these claims are believed to be in condition for allowance and an early notice to such effect is earnestly solicited.

7/23/02
Date

Respectfully submitted,

Steven L. Schmid
Registration No. 39,358

WOMBLE CARLYLE SANDRIDGE & RICE, PLLC
P. O. Box 7037
Atlanta, Georgia 30357-0037
(404) 962-7539 (Telephone)
(404) 870-8234 (Facsimile)

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Non-Fee Amendment, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

7/24/02

